

Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

January 7, 2009

Synopsis

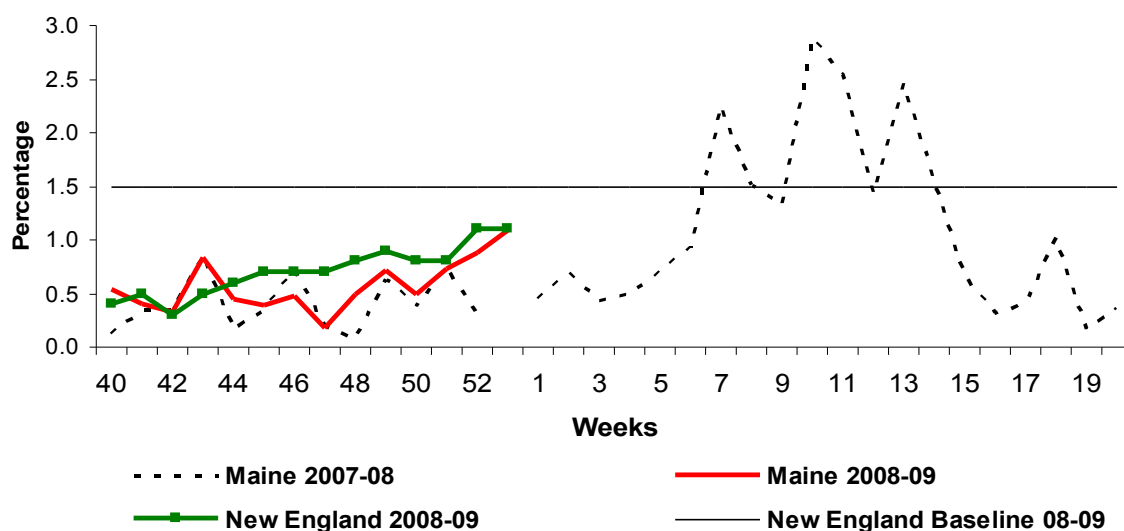
During the week ending January 3rd, 2009 (MMWR week 53)*, ILI activity slightly increased, and deaths due to pneumonia or influenza increased. Four cases of PCR positive influenza A were reported. Maine reported local influenza activity for week 53.

Moderate Disease Surveillance

Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending January 3rd, 2009, 1.1% of outpatient visits reported by eight Maine Sentinel Providers were for influenza-like illness (ILI). ILI is defined as fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}$ F / $\geq 37.8^{\circ}$ C) AND cough or sore throat in the absence of a known cause. In the New England States, 1.1% of outpatient visits were attributed to influenza-like illness during week 53. Maine remains below the New England baseline.

Outpatient Visits for Influenza-like Illness -- Maine, 2007-09



New England is defined as Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

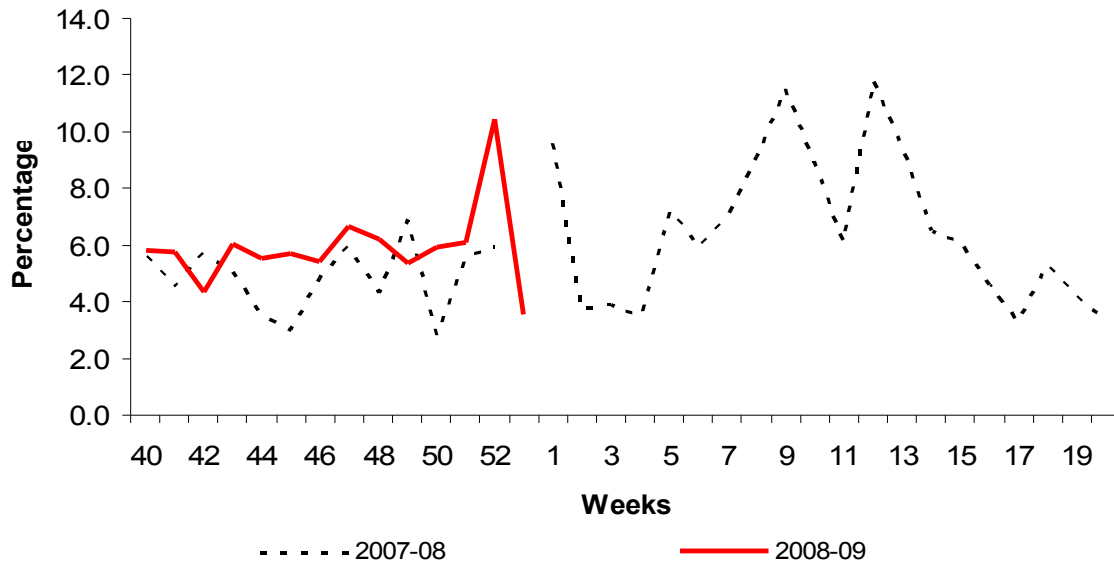
Severe Disease Surveillance

Hospital inpatients

During the week ending January 3rd, 2009, 3.6% of hospital admissions reported by three hospitals were attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is a decrease from previous weeks.

* At time of publication, reporting may be incomplete. Numbers presented here may change as more reports are received.

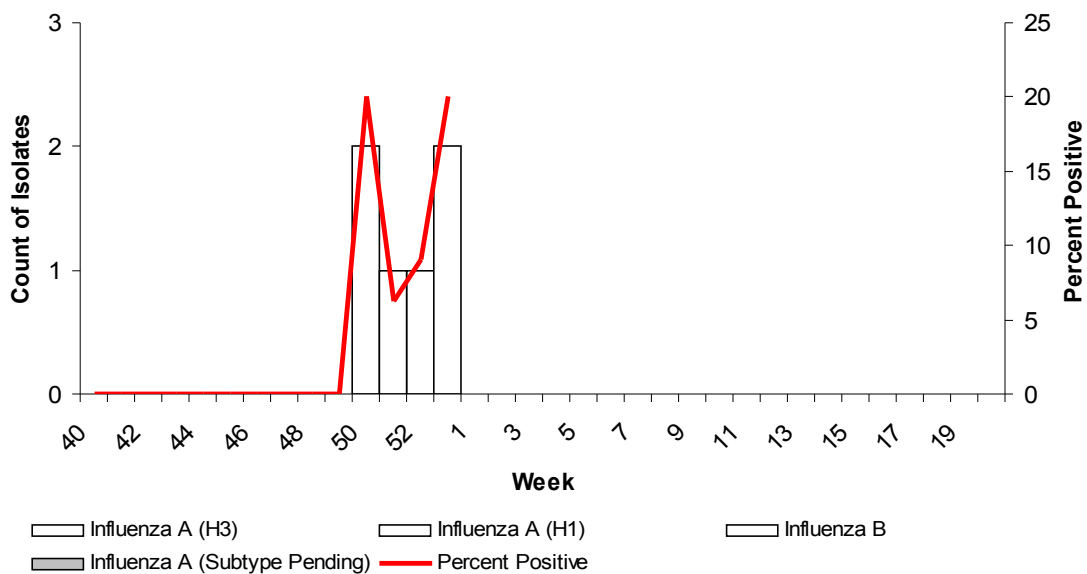
Hospital Admissions Due to Pneumonia or Influenza -- Maine, 2007-09



Laboratory Reporting

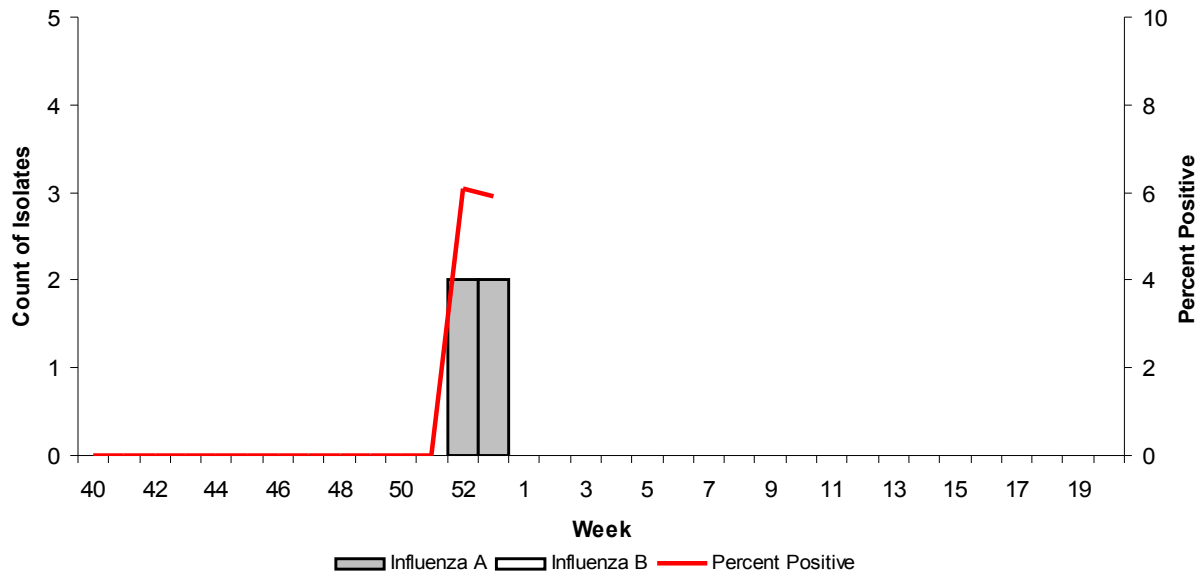
During the week ending January 3rd, 2009, ten samples were submitted for testing to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL). Two (20%) tested positive for influenza A, both type H1. To date, 86 samples have been submitted, six (7.0%) were positive for influenza: five for influenza A H1, and one for influenza A H3.

Respiratory Specimens Positive for Influenza from HETL, Maine, 2008-2009



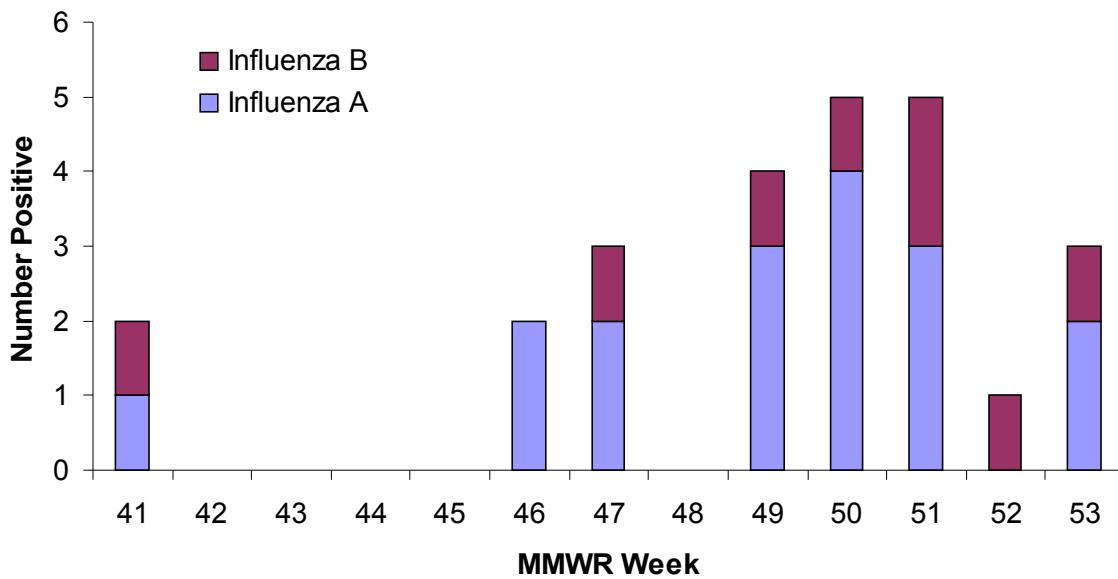
During the week ending January 3rd, 2009, 34 samples were submitted for testing to one private reference laboratory, two tested positive for influenza A. Three samples were positive for RSV. A combined total of 345 specimens have been submitted for respiratory testing to date, four were positive for influenza A. To date, 14 samples were positive for RSV, seven samples were positive for parainfluenza 3, one sample was positive for adenovirus, and one sample was positive for enterovirus.

Respiratory Specimens Positive for Influenza from Two Reference Laboratories, Maine, 2008 - 2009



Rapid tests are often used in clinical practice and these results contribute to the determination of the state influenza activity code reported to the federal CDC. During the week ending January 3rd, 2009, three samples tested positive using rapid testing, two for influenza A and one for influenza B. A combined total of 25 positive rapid tests have been reported this season. Seventeen were positive for influenza A, and eight were positive for influenza B.

Positive Rapid Influenza Tests, Maine, 2008-2009



Outbreaks

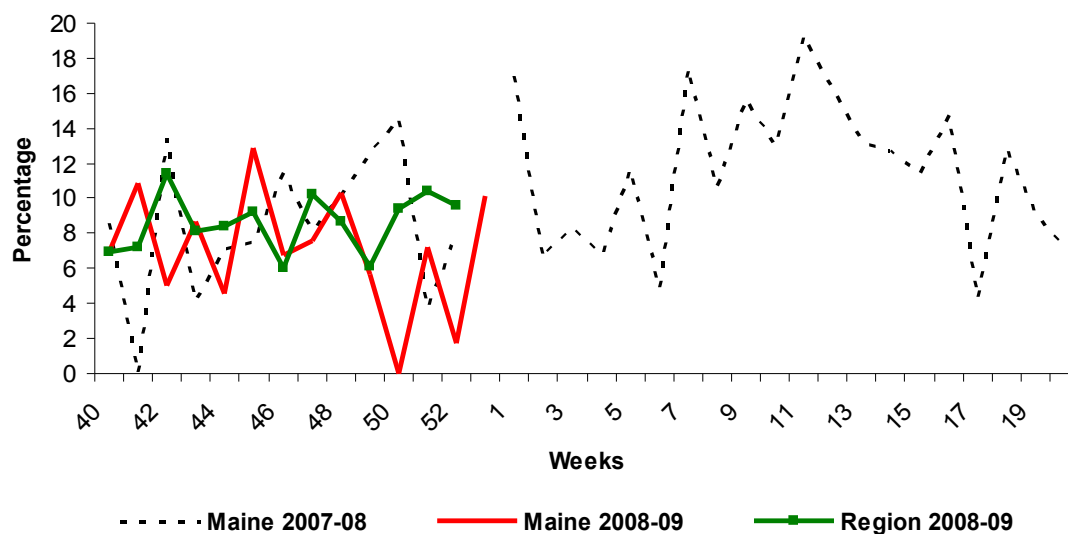
During the week ending January 3rd, 2009, no outbreaks of influenza-like illness were reported in Maine. To date, one outbreak of influenza like illness in a long term care facility has been reported.

Fatalities Surveillance

Death Certificates

During the week ending January 3rd, 2009, 10.2% of deaths reported by three city vital records offices were attributable to pneumonia and influenza.

Percentage of Deaths Attributable to Pneumonia and Influenza – Maine, New England and the United States, 2007-09



Pediatric Fatalities

No influenza-associated pediatric deaths in Maine have been reported this season.

National Influenza Activity

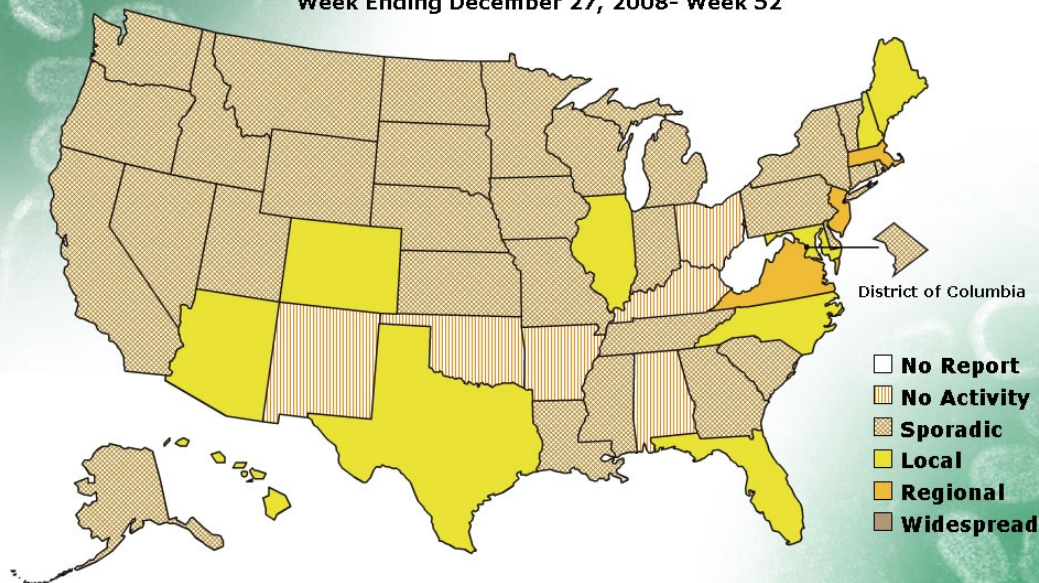
State health departments report the estimated level of influenza activity in their states each week. States report influenza activity as: 1) no activity, 2) sporadic, 3) local, 4) regional, or 5) widespread (definitions of these levels can be found at: www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm). Maine reported local activity for the week ending January 3rd, 2009 (week 53).

FLUVIEW



A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division
Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists*

Week Ending December 27, 2008- Week 52



*This map indicates geographic spread and does not measure the severity of influenza activity.